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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. 25X1
TOPIC Military Information from Magdeburg

EVALUATION 632709 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT.

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REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At about 6 p.m. on 12 March 1954, about 30 vehicles entered the Pionier Kaserne on Turmschanzenstrasse, Magdeburg. The column included amphibious vehicle 22 trucks and carrying pontoons, engineer equipment, 1 crane and 1 assault boat; ambulance and 6 to 7 trucks carrying troops. 1 25X1
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2. during the night on 12 March, tank shipments passed through Magdeburg-Neustadt, proceeding toward Wolmirstedt.
3. At about 10 a.m. on 15 March, a column of 1 sedan 12 trucks and 10 x 20-mm AA guns left the Flak Kaserne on Thomas Mann Strasse through Gate No 36, proceeding toward Heyrothsberge. 25X1
4. Loadings observed at the Friedrichstadt railroad station, on 15 March, included:
At 9:45, a shipment of 36 trucks and mounting numerous AA machine guns; 9 x 76.2-mm AA guns, 1 trailer, 3 radio trucks, 2 tank trucks and 12 boxcars, which left the station toward west at 12:15 p.m. and subsequently proceeded toward Stendal. The unit allegedly came from Flak Kaserne. 25X1
At noon, a shipment of about 30 trucks and 8 boxcars, which left westward at 3:50 p.m. 2 25X1
5. On 13 March, the following columns were seen on the northern road bridge, also referred to as Wilhelm Pieck bridge, en route toward east:
At 2 a.m. About 25 trucks, 2 x 85-mm AT guns, 3 x 57-mm AT guns and 2 x 120-mm mortars.
At 4:05 a.m. About 20 trucks, 1 x 57-mm AT gun, 4 x 85-mm AT guns and 6 armored personnel carriers.
At 4:10 a.m. About 35 trucks and 2 field kitchens. 25X1
At 5 a.m. About 10 trucks 8 T-34 tanks, 2 armored scout cars and 2 armored personnel carriers.

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6. At 12:25 p.m. on 15 March, a train of 3 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars, carrying 33 trucks, 10 prime movers and 10 heavy guns, passed over the northern railroad bridge, proceeding westward. 2

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8. Between 27 February and 16 March, about 200 to 300 troops observed in the Herrenkrug Kaserne engaged in fatigue duty and drill as previously. About 18 six-wheel armored personnel carriers, presumably of model M-3, 6 radio trucks, 3 M-1937 x 122-mm field guns, 12 x 76.2-mm field guns and 4 M-1943 x 76.2-mm infantry guns were repeatedly observed in the installation. On 16 March, the ration strength in the installation amounted to 1,868 EM, without officers. 4 Troops observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with artillery insignia. Eight 37-mm AA guns were seen about 800 meters west of the installation on the Alte Elbe River on several days of observation. The gun crews were fed from the installation. An area of about 1.6 ha located at Kleiner Anger, about 500 meters from the installation, was being surrounded by a barbed-wire fence and was prepared as ammunition depot, with 8 large earth bunkers, about 10 x 8 x 4 meters, being erected on 16 March.

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10. On 16 March, the ration strength in the Flak Kaserne, Magdeburg-Gracau, amounted to 3,476 EM, without officers.⁶ Troops observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. Up to 32 x 37-mm AA guns with the same number of trucks, 3 searchlights, about 1.5 meters in diameter; and about 35 machine guns on gun mounts were observed in the installation on several days of observation. Three three-axle trucks, each with 1 ballistic director, presumably of model Puaso-3, were seen in a vehicle shed in the northeast section of the installation. During the period under review, about 300 to 400 troops engaged in drill with small arms and maintenance work on vehicles and guns. Trucks and tank truck were seen en route to and from the installation.

2. Comment. At 9:45 a.m. the entraining of a unit of the 3d Gds AAA Div. The two shipments observed on 15 March are fairly definitely believed to have gone to the training area of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. 7 shipments were dispatched to this area from Magdeburg on 15 March. The train at 12:25 p.m. on 15 March, which carried an artillery unit, probably came from Altengrabow and went to Gransee in the abovementioned training area.

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4. Comment. The strength figure obtained from the ration strength report roughly confirms the previous assumption that, in addition to the division headquarters of the 19th Gds Mech Div, the 26th Gds Tank Regt, the 12th Mtrcl Bn and the unidentified signal battalion may also be stationed in Herrenkrug Kaserne.

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6. Comment. The Flak Kaserne is carried occupied by the 3d Gds AAA Div with all component units; the 19th Gds Mech Div, the 573d Mort Regt and, presumably, the 99th Gds How Arty Regt and the rocket launcher battalion. The ration strength figure for 16 March confirms this occupation.

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